CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY	USSR (Estonian SSR)	REPORT		
SUBJECT	The Town of Viljandi	DATE DISTR.	10 No	vember 1951;
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Population

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1. In addition to the native Estonians, there are Estonians from other parts of the Soviet Union and Russians living in Viljandi. These latter groups are active in the militia, the <u>ispolkom</u> (executive committee), the <u>voyenkomat</u> (military commissariat), the <u>promkombinat</u>, and the cooperatives. A certain amount of antagonism toward the newcomers exists, but it is not shown openly.

War Damage

2. Must little war damage there was in the town was caused by air raids. Parks were established on the sites of some of the destroyed buildings.

Traffic

3. Then the trains arrive from Tallinn and Abja in the afternoon, traffic is heavy. It includes pedestrians, automobiles, trucks, horsecarts, and bicycles. On market days from 0500 to 0600 hours, there is also considerable activity when the kolkhozniki bring their products into town. There is also some activity around the station and on the streets at 0200 hours, when the last trains arrive. Otherwise, there is little traffic on the streets, especially at night.

Buildings

4. Two-story wooden houses predominate. There are few brick and limestone buildings.

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Summer Resort

5. The Uueveski summer resort on the shore of Uueveski Lake is neglected and rundown. In June 1952, the basins were dried up, the meadows were overgrown, the boat piers and diving tower had not been set up, and the grounds of the beach cafe were in disorder.

Weather

6. The first frost is in November, and the first snow is in December. The average winter temperature is 10° to 15° C. Spring starts at the end of March or the beginning of April. The summer of 1952 was very rainy; crops and hay were seriously damaged. Until April 1953, there had been little rain. There was little fog, usually only morning mist.

Industry

7. There are only small factories, including a linen weaving factory, a match factory, a sawmill, a conserve plant, and a distillery.

Labor

8. Enterprises are free to hire anyone who, according to his documents, is available for work. A worker can change jobs with the approval of the director of the enterprise. It is not advisable to change jobs too often, because the authorities do not favor frequent changes. Railroad employees have difficulty in changing jobs, presumably because there are restrictions against it.

Market

9. The market hours are usually from 0600 until 1000 or 1100 hours or until all the products are sold. Individuals come by train, bicycle, or foot from as far as 20-30 kilometers to sell their products. Kolkhozy send their agricultural products by trucks or horsecarts. Although there are restaurants near the market, most of the farmers bring their lunch with them to save money. To sell in the market, a farmer must have a certificate proving that he has delivered his quota to the State. All vendors must pay a fee of at least one ruble to the market superintendent. The fee is based on the quantity of produce being sold.

Restaurants

10. The klosks at the railroad station are open until 0200 hours. Restaurants and at least one coffeehouse are open until midnight.

Public Utilities

11. The electric voltage is 220 and 360, probably AC. There is a city water system, and good quality water is obtained from Viljandi Lake. There is adequate sewage canalization.

<u>Telephone</u>

12. For a small fee, a person can use any telephone available for local calls. It is difficult to make long distance calls even from the post office.

Radio

13. Loudspeakers are installed in parks, squares, and other public places. Although there are no regulations prohibiting listening to foreign broadcasts, people have been detained for discussing foreign broadcasts or passing on information from them. Many people who own radios listen to foreign broadcasts despite

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widespread jamming.

<u>Publications</u>

14. A newspaper is published in Viljandi, but source does not know the name. The Tallinn newspapers, Rahva HEEL (Voice of the Feople) and <u>Uus Elu</u> (New Life), are available in Viljandi; the price is 20 kopeks. The periodicals <u>Pioneer</u>, <u>Eesti Naine</u>, <u>Krokodil</u>, <u>Kehakultuur</u>, and probably <u>Kommunist</u> are on sale. <u>Krokodil</u> costs 3.5 rubles per copy. Nearly everyone buys a newspaper, not to read, but to use as wrapping paper, toilet paper, and cigarette paper.

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Legend to Sketch of Viljandi

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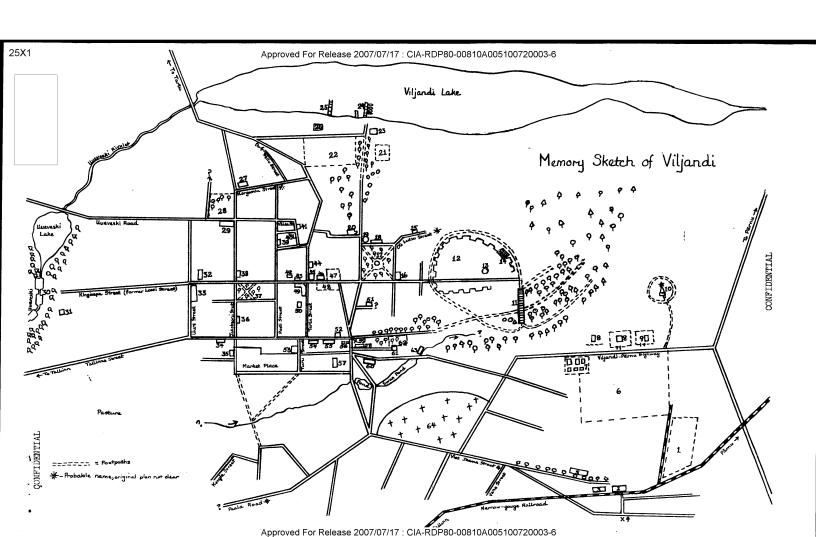
- 1. Lumber storage yard.
- Railroad station: A two-story stuccoed building of stone or brick. The station was almost completely destroyed during the war, and the new one was completed in the fall of 1952. A cement platform was laid in May 1953.
- 3. Railroad storage building: A long stone structure.
- 4. Bus stop for the bus running from the town to the railroad station.
- 5. Match factory: A long stone structure.
- 6. Airfield: Overgrown with grass. No air activity was observed.
- 7. Military barracks: Ten or more one-story wooden buildings located on the airfield. The barracks were built by the Soviets and were probably occupied by infantry units.
- 8. Ammunition warehouses: Half underground, surrounded by an earth embankment. The warehouses formerly belonged to the Estonian Army but were taken over by the Soviets.
- 9. Hay barn: A large wooden building.
- 10. War memorial of stone built by the Soviets.
- 11. Suspension bridge of iron and wood which crosses a deep valley.
- 12. Ruins of an old castle.
- 13. Old well on the castle grounds.
- 14. Stone cellar: Called Villu Cellar after an Estonian national hero of the Middle Ages.
- 15. Driving school: Two-story white building.
- 16. <u>Domupravleniye</u> (housing administration): A one-story wooden building.
- 17. Park: Formerly called Laidoneri Park. It contains a fountain with a statue of a boy holding a fish in his lap. Before the war, there were fish in the fountain, but, since then, there has been only muddy water.
- 18. Elementary school: A two-story building.
- 19. Water tower: A high brick building shaped like a club (sic).
- Ispolkom office of Viljandi Rayon: A two-story white building with a
 watchtower.
- 21. Lawn tennis court.
- 22. Stadium.
- 23. Two-story building: Use unknown.
- 24. Wooden pier for boats.
- 25. Swimming pier.
- 26. Beach cafe: A two-story wooden building.

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- 27. Two-story building: Formerly a girls' school.
- 28. School playground and park.
- 29. Secondary school: A two-story building.
- 30. Basins.
- 31. Soviet military cemetery.
- 32. Small canning plant.
- 33. Linen weaving factory: A two-story building.
- 34. Post office: A two-story white stone building.
- 35. Restaurant: A two-story building.
- 36. Daht Movie Theater: Probably a two-story building.
- 37. Children's park.
- 38. Viljandi voyenkomat: A two-story brick building.
- 39. Artificial teeth section of the dental laboratory: A two-story building.
- 40. Hospital: A two-story building.
- 41. Maternity clinic: A two-story building.
- 42. A new movie theater: A one-story building.
- 43. Jeweler's shor: A two-story building.
- 44. X-ray laboratory: A two-story building.
- 45. Tavern for farmers: A one-story wooden building.
- 46. Shop for ready-made clothes and sport articles.
- 47 and 48. Parks on the sites of ruins.
- 49. A five-story building containing, on the ground floor, shops and a cafe and, on the upper floors, the <u>ispolkom</u> office of the town of Viljandi. The Eve Restaurant was formerly located on the second floor.
- 50. A one-story building which formerly housed the Gloria Movie Theater, which is probably no longer in existence.
- 51. Approximate location of the labor recruitment bureau: A two-story building.
- 52. Watch repair shor: A one-story wooden building.
- 53. Hospital: A two-story building.
- 54. Ruins of the Ugala Theater.
- 55. Cooperative: On the second floor is a restaurant. This building formerly housed the Estonian Consumers Association. The brick building is two or three stories high.
- 56. Kiosks where cigarettes, alcoholic beverages, and sandwiches are sold. There is a taxi stand in front of the kiosks.



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- 57. Viljandi church; A red brick building. A memorial to Captain Irv, an Estonian war hero, which stood before the church, was destroyed by the Soviets in 1941.
- 58. Ruins of the bank and post office: The memorial to the Estonian War of Independence, which stood before this building, was destroyed by the Soviets after the war.
- 59. Bus stop.
- 60. School house; Probably a secondary school, a three-story building.
- 61. Militia headquarters; A two-story building.
- 62. Park; Formerly called the Police Park. The present name is unknown.
- 63. Tannery; A two-story wooden building.
- 64. Cemetery.

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